

**COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 2003 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT**

Project No.: PIP-12B

Title of Proposal: *Public Involvement Accomplishments for the Recovery Program in the Mainstem of the Colorado River*

Lead Agency: Bureau of Reclamation, Western Colorado Area Office

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I. Project Summary: The mainstem of the Colorado River from Rifle, Colorado, to Lake Powell, Utah, supports populations of Colorado pikeminnow, humpback chub, razorback sucker, and bonytail. One focal point of recovery efforts of these endangered fish is the 15-Mile Reach of the Colorado River immediately upstream of the confluence with the Gunnison River, near Grand Junction, Colorado. Capital Improvement projects concerning this 15-Mile Reach include:

A. Grand Valley Water Management: Development of a water supply alternative for the 15-Mile Reach of the Colorado River. Included in this project are efficiency improvements to the Government Highline Canal, part of Reclamation's Grand Valley Project, and delivering surplus water from Green Mountain Reservoir to the Grand Valley Power Plant near Palisade, Colorado. These improvements are expected to conserve a significant amount of project water to benefit the habitat of the four endangered fish species in the 15-Mile Reach.

B. Grand Valley Irrigation Company Fish Screen: Construction of a fish screen in the privately-owned Grand Valley Mainline Canal. This screen is required as part of the 15-Mile Reach Preliminary Biological Opinion.

C. Price-Stubb Diversion Dam (abandoned): Provide fish passage on the Colorado River upstream of the 15-Mile Reach.

D. Grand Valley Project Diversion Dam: Provide fish passage on the Colorado River upstream of the 15-Mile Reach.

II. Hartland Diversion Dam: Restoring fish passage at the privately-owned Hartland Dam on the Gunnison River east of Delta, Colorado.

- III. **Study Schedule:** Ongoing public involvement support for capital improvement projects.
- IV. **Relationship to RIPRAP:** General Recovery Program Support Action Plan
- V. **Accomplishments of FY 2003 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Findings and Shortcomings:**
 - A. **Tasks:**
 - 1. Develop public awareness and support and/or informed consent for Recovery Program activities/projects.
 - 2. Provide support for the Information and Education Coordinator
 - B. **Strategies:**
 - 1. **Media:**
 - a. Produced and distributed news releases regarding construction of a fish passage structure at the Grand Valley Project Diversion Dam, a fish screen in the Government Highline Canal, and fish passage at the Price-Stubb Diversion Dam. (Ongoing)
 - b. News articles appeared in local newspapers about the Recovery Program projects/proposals. (Ongoing)
 - 2. **Meetings:**
 - a. Coordinated news releases with water users. (Ongoing)
 - b. Arranged meetings with local congressional staff to keep them up-to-date and aware of Recovery Program activities that Reclamation is involved with in the area. (Quarterly)
 - c. Participate in quarterly Information and Education Committee meetings. (Ongoing)
 - 3. **Tours:**
 - a. Arrange tours of the Grand Valley Recovery Program's completed facilities and proposed fish passages, grow-out ponds, fish screens, and habitat restoration areas (as needed).
 - 4. **Other:**
 - a. Assisted the Information and Education Coordinator with various Recovery Program activities as needed.
- VI. **Recommendations:** None
- VII. **Project Status:** On track and ongoing

VIII. FY 2002 Budget Status:

- A. Funds Provided: \$32,000
- B. Funds Expended: \$32,000
- C. Difference: \$0
- D. Percent of the FY 2003 work completed, and projected costs to complete: N/A
- E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: N/A
(Printing was charged to the applicable project)

Signed:	<u>Justyn M. Hock</u>	<u>11/14/03</u>
	Submitted by	Date